

## Environmental Services

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MEDIA CONTACT:

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City of San Diego Hosts Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program

City Residents Drop Off Christmas Trees and Help the Environment

**SAN DIEGO, CA–** The City of San Diego Environmental Services Department will host the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Residential Program beginning December 31, 2003 through January 16, 2004. This year the program will offer 18 drop-off locations available to residents only.

Residents who want to recycle their Christmas Trees before December 31, 2003 can go to the Miramar Greenery located at the Miramar Landfill seven days a week during hours of operation. Beginning December 31, 2003, residents can drop off clean trees at any of the 18 drop-off locations during daylight hours through January 16, 2004. Throughout the entire duration of the program, trees collected as fundraising projects or commercial loads will not be accepted at the drop-off locations. Instead, these trees can be dropped off free of charge at the Miramar Greenery.

"We encourage all those who celebrate the holidays with a Christmas tree to participate in our recycling program," said Richard L. Hays, director of Environmental Services

Department. "Green waste or yard waste, such as your Christmas tree, is a large part of the recyclable material that unfortunately ends up being buried in the Miramar Landfill. By recycling your Christmas tree you are doing your part to reduce the amount of material in the landfill and thus increase the usable life of the landfill."

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Residents participating in the Christmas Tree Recycling Program should plan to drop off only clean trees during daylight hours. Before trees can be dropped off, all tree stands, nails, staples, ornaments and other tree decorations must be removed. Please do not illegally dump non-recyclable items at the drop-off locations.

In addition to clean trees, flocked trees (fake snow) are also accepted. All trees will be recycled into high quality mulch and compost which is available throughout the year to city residents for free at the Miramar Greenery.

Residents who currently receive curbside greenery recycling collection can also recycle their trees through the curbside collection program by placing trees at the curb with the regular greenery recycling. Residents who wish to recycle trees through the curbside recycling program are required to remove all non-recyclable materials before placing trees in with greenery.

Due to budgetary limitations, the number of drop-off sites has been reduced this year to help cut costs related to daily transportation of trees from drop off locations throughout the City of San Diego. Eight drop-off locations in this year's program have been omitted. The following is a list of locations that have been omitted and locations nearby that will accept trees from residents: (Addresses for nearby drop-off locations are listed under the complete list of 18 drop-off sites.)

Sites omitted	Nearby drop-off locations
1. City Heights - Farmers Nursery	Oak Park - Chollas Lake
2. Mira Mesa – Mira Mesa Little League Field	Rancho Penasquitos - Canyonside
	Recreation Center or
	Miramar - Miramar Landfill
	Greenery
3. Mountain View - Mountain View Recreation Center	Logan Heights - Memorial
	Recreation Center
4. Rancho Bernardo - Pinery Christmas Tree	Rancho Bernardo – Rancho
	Bernardo Recreation Center
5. San Carlos - San Carlos Recreation Center	San Diego State University - parking
	lot "C" off of Alvarado Rd.
6. Scripps Ranch - Hoyt Park	Scripps Ranch - Scripps Ranch
	Recreation Center
7. Serra Mesa - Serra Mesa Recreation Center	Miramar - Miramar Greenery
8. University City - Doyle Recreation Center	University City - Swanson Pool

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The following is the complete list of the City's 18 drop-off locations for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Tree Residential Recycling Program:

Sites	Addresses
1. Carmel Valley:	Carmel Valley Recreation Center, 3777 Townsgate Drive, lower
	parking lot.
2. Clairemont:	Clairemont Mesa Boulevard @ Diane Street.
3. Encanto:	Cielo Drive @ Woodman Street
4. Golden Hill:	Golden Hill Recreation Center, 2600 Golf Course Drive
5. La Jolla:	Soledad Park, Soledad Road. By the cross.
6. Logan Heights:	Memorial Recreation Center, 2902 Marcy Avenue
7. Miramar:	Miramar Landfill and Greenery Recycling, Convoy Street north of
	Highway 52.
8. Mission Bay:	Sea World Drive @ Pacific Highway.
9. Mission Valley:	Super Target parking lot in Mission Valley Center.
10. Oak Park:	Chollas Lake, 6350 College Grove Drive, in Gloria's Mesa parking
	lot.
11. Ocean Beach:	Robb Field Recreation Center, 2525 Bacon Street.
12. Otay Mesa/Nestor:	Montgomery Waller Community Park (upper and lower-west
	parking lots.)
13. Rancho Bernardo:	Rancho Bernardo Recreation Center, 18448 W. Bernardo Dr.
14. Rancho Penasquitos:	Canyonside Recreation Center, 12350 Black Mountain Road
15. San Diego State Universit	ity: Parking Lot C off Alvarado Road.
16. Scripps Ranch:	Scripps Ranch Recreation Center, 11454 Blue Cypress Drive
17. Tierrasanta:	De Portola Middle School, 11010 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.
18. University City:	Swanson Pool, 3585 Governor Drive.

The Miramar Landfill and the Miramar Greenery are located at 5180 Convoy Street, just north of the 52 Highway. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays, Sundays and most holidays 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Landfill will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Additional information about the residential drop-off site locations is available by calling the City of San Diego Recycling Hotline at (858) 694-7000. For information on mulch and compost produced at the Miramar Greenery, please call the Miramar Landfill at (858) 573-1420.

The City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department is charged with refuse collection and disposal, recycling and environmentally-sound landfill management to meet the City's long-term disposal needs. The Department also oversees the City's management of energy use and explores innovative options for energy independence. For more information on Environmental Services, visit the web site at <a href="http://www.sannet.gov/environmental-services/">http://www.sannet.gov/environmental-services/</a>.